

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 03135 100146Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00  
EB-08 H-02 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 SP-02 OC-06  
CTME-00 PRS-00 SS-15 USIE-00 USSS-00 SY-05 FAA-00  
WRDE-00 MCT-01 SCS-06 CA-01 PPT-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
INRE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 PM-05 /092 W  
-----045713 100150Z /64

O 100115Z MAR 78  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9359  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS HONG KONG 3135

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, PINS, HK, TW  
SUBJECT: INCIDENT ABOARD CHINA AIRLINES (CAL) FLIGHT 831

REF: (A) HONG KONG 3134, (B) TAIPEI 1457

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, CAL ENGINEER ATTACKED CAL PILOT DURING FLIGHT JUST BEFORE AIRCRAFT WAS DUE LAND IN HONG KONG. IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED THAT ENGINEER WAS SHOT DEAD AND THAT ONLY INJURED PERSONS WERE CAL PILOT AND CAL CO-PILOT, BOTH OF WHOM ARE IN HOSPITAL IN SATISFACTORY CONDITION. ALL THREE ARE REPUBLIC OF CHINA CITIZENS.
  2. MOTIVE FOR ATTACK BY CAL ENGINEER UNCLEAR. WHILE HIJACK TO PRC REMAINS POSSIBILITY IT MAY WELL HAVE BEEN DEMENTED ACT OR INVOLVED PERSONAL QUARREL BETWEEN HIM AND PILOTS.
  3. GEORGE H. WHITAKER, ONLY U.S. CITIZEN ON BOARD AIRCRAFT, GAVE INTERVIEW TO PRESS AT AIRPORT GIVING HIS VERSION OF WHAT OCCURRED. HE SAID PASSENGERS WERE NOT FULLY AWARE OF WHAT WAS GOING ON AND THAT HE DID NOT HEAR ANY SHOTS.
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SHOESMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, CASUALTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978HONGK03135  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780107-0276  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780384/aaaacspt.tel  
**Line Count:** 56  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 68aeacc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 HONG KONG 3134, 78 TAIPEI 1457  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3376335  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INCIDENT ABOARD CHINA AIRLINES (CAL) FLIGHT 831  
**TAGS:** CASC, PINS, HK, TW  
**To:** STATE TAIPEI  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/68aeacc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014